AMENDMENTS_TO_SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 17, lines 27-32, as set forth below:

Another embodiment of the present invention relates to SEQ ID No. 4, wherein said SEQ ID is having has the following sequence as following:

5'GAGGTGTAATGCCTTTCCGGACCCTAGGTGGCCTT TCGGTGCTTGCACGGAACGCACCGATGCTTCCCCCT **CCCCGCATGCTCGAGGCATGCTATCCGATACAGGG** CCGCCGCACTAAACCGCGATCGAATTTGCCCAGGTC AGGGAACGGATATGAGCGGACGAG3' 5'TGGATCCGTTGACCATGAGGTGTAATGCCTTTCCG GACCCTAGGTGCCTTTCGGTGCTTGCACGGAACGC <u>ACCGATGCTTCCCCCTCCCGCATGCTCGAGGCATG</u> CTATCCGATACAGGGCCGCCGCACTAAACCGCGAT CGAATTTGCCCAGGTCAGGGAACGGATATGAGCGG ACGAGCTACTTGGTCATGGTGAACTGGGCGACGTT <u>GATTAGGCCTCTGCGGAAGCGCTCCGCGCATCCGGT</u> CAGATAGTGCATGAAGTTGTTGTAGACCTCTTCGGA CTGTACGGCGATGGCGCGTTCGCGGGCAGCCTGTA GGTTGGCGCCCATGCATCGAGAGTCCGTGCGTAG TGGGAATTC 3'.

Please amend the paragraph at page 18, lines 16-22, as set forth below:

Still another embodiment of the present invention relates to the <u>embodiment</u> wherein DNA in the step (c) is extracted from the treated clinical specimen using a modified lysis buffer by inclusion of ingredients comprising guanidinium

Serial No. 10/725,994 Attorney Docket: 41144 F 010

isothiocyanate in <u>a</u> range of about 0.5-8 M, Tris.Cl pH 7.6 is in the range of about 20-100 mM, N lauryl Sarcosyl is in the range of about 0.5-2% <u>by weight</u> of <u>the buffer</u>, EDTA is in the range of about 0.1-20 mM, β-Mercaptoethanol is in the range of about 1-25 mM and NH₄COOH <u>NaCl</u> is in the range <u>amount</u> of about 0.3M-1M <u>0.2M</u> and purifying the DNA to improve the yield by thorough precipitation by organic solvents.

Please amend the paragraph at page 18, lines 23-25, as set forth below:

Another embodiment of the present invention relates to the embodiment wherein guanidinium isothiocyanate is present at about 4 M, Tris.Cl pH 7.6 is present at about 50 mM, N lauryl Sarcosyl is present at about 1% by weight of the buffer, EDTA is present at about 1mM, β-Mercaptoethanol is present at about 10mM and NH₄COOH NaCl is present at about 0.7M 0.2M.

Please amend the paragraph at page 19, lines 21-27, as set forth below:

In another embodiment, of the present invention relates to the the oligonucleotide primers capable of amplification of intergenic region of SEQ ID No. 4 for detection of pathogenic Mycobacteria in clinical specimens are, these primers being selected from the group consisting of:

a. 5' TGGATCCGTTGACCATGAGGTGTAATG 3' (SEQ ID No. 5), which is the forward primer[[.]], and

b. 5' GGAATTCCACTACCACGGACTCTC 3'

<u>5' GGAATTCCACTACGCACGGACTCTC 3'</u> (SEQ ID No. 6), which is the reverse primer.

Please amend the paragraph at page 21, lines 24-33 as set forth below:

A portion (200 µl) of digested and decontaminated sample was transferred to a micro centrifuge tube. To it 500 μl modified lysis buffer containing 4M guanidinium isothiocyanate, 50 mM Tris.Cl (pH 8.0), 1% N lauryl Sarcosyl, 1 mM EDTA, 10 mM 2-Mercaptoethanol and 0.2M[[,]] NaCl was were added and mixed by inverting. Tubes were incubated at 85°C with intermittent shaking for 20 min to lyse the cells. To the lysate was added 200 μl 2.5M ammonium acetate pH 7.6, mixed by inverting. Mixture was spun at 12000 g for 5 minutes. Supernatant was once extracted with phenol and chloroform. DNA was precipitated with 0.8% by volume isopropyl alcohol. Pellet was washed thoroughly with 70% ethyl alcohol, briefly airdried and dissolved in 30 µl TE buffer (10 mM Tris.Cl pH 8.3 and 0.01mM EDTA pH 8.0[[,]]). 2 μ l of this was used for PCR amplification.